

Natural Gas Safety

Natural gas helps many of us heat our homes during the winter and have hot water all year long.

The system that brings natural gas to our homes is inspected regularly and designed to be safe. But if there's a gas leak, it is very dangerous and can be deadly.

To help us stay safe, the utility puts a chemical in natural gas so it smells like rotten eggs. If you smell that, it could mean that there is a gas leak.

If you think there's a gas leak in your home:

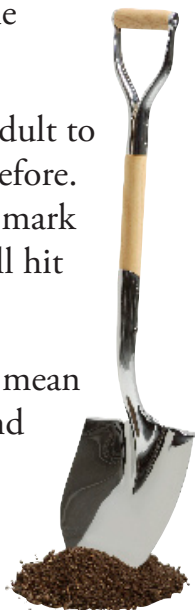
- Tell a grown-up right away.
- Do not use the telephone.
- Do not touch light switches, thermostats or anything that plugs in.
- **Leave the house or building right away.**
- Once you are in a safe place, call 9-1-1 or the gas company, or ask an adult to.
- Don't go back to the house until the gas company or police say it is safe.



Natural gas travels to your home through pipes that are under the ground. If you dig a hole, you could hit a gas pipeline or underground electric line, which can be deadly. You could also break water, sewer and telephone lines that are buried in the ground.

No one should dig outside without asking an adult to call 1-800-382-5544 at least a couple of days before. If you do that, utility workers will use chalk to mark where the pipes and lines are so that no one will hit one by accident.

If you smell a rotten egg odor outside, it could mean a pipeline leak. You should go to a safe place and ask an adult to call 9-1-1 right away.



**You and your parents can find more
safety tips at www.IN.gov/OUCC.**



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

100 N. Senate Av., Room N501 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2215

www.IN.gov/OUCC • toll-free: 1-888-441-2494 • voice/TDD: 317-232-2494 • fax: 317-232-5923